

REMARKS

I. Introduction

In response to the Office Action dated October 6, 2005, claims 1-12 have been amended and claim 13 has been added. Claim 1 has been amended to depend from newly added claim 13. Claims 2-12 have been amended to address alleged antecedent basis issues. For at least the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are patentable over the cited reference.

II. The Rejection of Claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by USP No. 6,617,622 to Kudou. Applicants traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 has been amended to depend from newly added claim 13. Independent claim 13 recites, among other things, a structure of a power supply wherein the pitch between the main lines of the power supply paths are set to be longer than the sum of the length of outgoing lines of the power supply provided opposite one another. At least this feature is not disclosed by Kudou. Such a structure ensures that branched power supply lines disposed on opposite sides do not overlap.

Kudou, on the other hand, appears to disclose a configuration wherein the sum of the length of the branched power supply lines on two opposites sides is longer than the distance between the main power supply lines disposed opposite one another. For example, branch power supply line 17-1a and 17-2a, which are disposed opposite of each other, appear to overlap, as depicted in Figure 8. In contrast, the present invention provides a power supply structure

wherein the pitch between the two main power lines is longer than the sum of two outgoing power lines disposed opposite each other. For example, the pitch between main power lines 10a and 20a, depicted in Figure 3 of the pending application, is longer than the sum of the length of outgoing power lines 11 and 21 because these outgoing power lines do not overlap. Thus, Kudou fails to disclose each and every feature of independent claim 13. As such, independent claim 13 is not anticipated by Kudou.

III. All Dependent Claims Are Allowable Because The Independent Claims From Which They Depend Are Allowable

Under Federal Circuit guidelines, a dependent claim is nonobvious if the independent claim upon which it depends is allowable because all the limitations of the independent claim are contained in the dependent claims, *Hartness International Inc. v. Simplimatic Engineering Co.*, 819 F.2d at 1100, 1108 (Fed. Cir. 1987). Accordingly, as claim 13 is patentable for the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all claims dependent thereon are also in condition for allowance.

Regarding claims 5-12, the Examiner refers to USP No. 6,405,346 (to Nawa) as allegedly disclosing that it is well known in the art that the length and width of power supply lines can be calculated and recalculated. Applicants submit that the calculation and recalculation of power supply line parameters is not recited in claims 5-12. Furthermore, if it is the intent of the Examiner to apply this alleged teaching of Nawa to one or more claimed features, the Examiner is reminded that a 35 U.S.C. § 102 rejection over multiple references has been held to be proper only when the extra references are cited to (a) prove the primary reference contains an enabled disclosure; (b) explain the meaning of a term used in the primary reference; (c) show that a characteristic not disclosed in the reference is inherent (see, MPEP § 2131.01). Moreover,

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whether power supply line parameters can be calculated and recalculated is irrelevant to the specific structure regarding the dimensions of the outgoing power lines, as recited in claims 5-12

IV. Conclusion

Accordingly, it is urged that the application is in condition for allowance, an indication of which is respectfully solicited.

If there are any outstanding issues that might be resolved by an interview or an Examiner's amendment, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number shown below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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